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ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

FOREST SUPERVISOR

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST

1962

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA REGION

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MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST

FOREST SUPERVISOR	Robert E. Dasmann	Willows, California

STAFF OFFICERS	FUNCTIONS
Samuel D. Hall	Timber Management - Information and Education - State and Private Forestry
Joseph B. Ely, Jr.	Range - Wildlife - Fire Control
William Anderson	Lands - Recreation - Special Uses - Watershed Management
George Blodgett	Engineering
John J. Hudacek	Business Management

RANGERS	DISTRICT	HEADQUARTERS
Glenn S. Smith	Corning	Corning, California
David G. Mohla	Willows	Willows, California
John W. Torvinen	Stonyford	Stonyford, California
Emil M. Koledin	Upper Lake	Upper Lake, California
Arthur J. Weddle, Jr.	Covelo	Covelo, California

Mendocino National Forest - Land of Many Uses

Supervisor's Headquarters

The increasing population in California with the resultant stepped up tempo of general activities has been reflected on the Mendocino National Forest. Increased use and demands have resulted in increased Forest work programs. Recreation visitor use continues to increase about 9% per year. The allowable annual timber harvest has been increased from 81 to 89 million board feet. The increased budget is in line with increased Congressional attention to the need to financially implement the multiple use program of the National Forests. The 1961 operation and investment budget of $1,757,196 compares to $2,243,925 in 1962.

The Forest Supervisor's headquarters in Willows was expanded by an extension to the existing building. A new nine room office was constructed at Upper Lake. The ranger headquarters was moved from Paskenta to Corning where office spaces were leased. The Paskenta headquarters is now used for a work center. These expansions of facilities are needed to effectively handle the increased volume of business.

Public information activities highlighted the importance of scientific forest management, and the need for conservation of soil and water.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

The Mendocino National Forest sold 79.4 million board feet of timber during the calendar year 1962. This was offered to the timber industry in the form of 11 advertised and 22 unadvertised sales. On January 1, 1962, there were 71.0 million board feet of timber under contract but not cut. The industry removed 73.0 million board feet during the 1962 season, leaving an unharvested volume of 77.4 million board feet under contract as of December 31, 1962.

In order to more accurately determine the amount of timber grown annually, which in turn determines the allowable annual cut, 118 permanent sample plots were established throughout the Forest on the commercial forest land. As more and more acres are cut over, more of these plots will need to be established. The allowable annual cut was increased in October from 81.4 to 88.8 million board feet.

Although most people are more familiar with the aspect of timber harvesting, many many man days of work go into the production of timber in the form of regeneration and silvicultural treatment. A total of 476 acres of understocked or brush covered timber soils were cleared and planted with commercial species of pine and fir. In addition, 348 acres were cleared

Planting seedlings on High Valley Ridge

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST TIMBER SALES

Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30)	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	5 Year Total	Average Per Year
Allowable Annual Cut*	68.0	69.0	69.0	75.3	76.4	357.7	
Actual Sales*	136.7	46.0	45.8	34.5	43.1	306.1	
Actual Cut*	70.4	77.5	58.1	58.4	90.9	355.3	
Uncut Volume Under Contract*	179.9	148.3	136.0	112.1	64.4		128.1
Timber Sale Receipts**	531.9	301.2	455.2	389.9	624.1		460.4
Avg. Appraised Price/thousand bd. ft.	8.30	6.14	11.94	10.28	6.55		8.64
Avg. Bid & Sold Price/thousand bd. ft.	9.74	8.95	12.14	10.34	12.08		10.65

* Volume in million board feet
** Thousands of dollars

Note: Another 45 million board feet was prepared for sale and advertised in Fiscal Year 1962 but was not sold until Fiscal Year 1963 because of an expected price reduction.

as advance site preparation for planting at some future date. To secure faster growth of trees producing better quality lumber, 1170 acres were thinned and/or released, 400 acres were pruned, and 1414 acres were cleared of hardwood trees in competition with commercial conifers. Christmas trees harvested from these areas as a means of releasing pole size tree stands totaled 5734. Gooseberry and currant plants were removed from 352 acres of sugar pine management areas to prevent White Pine Blister Rust infection of high value sugar pine.

A new development in timber sales occurred in 1962 with the sale of snags and cull logs on timber sale areas on the Upper Lake Ranger District. These snags in many instances are up to twenty years old, the result of past fires. Increased interest in salvaging this material will result in more sales in 1963 according to present plans.

Snags in the Thomas Creek area to be salvaged by logging for pulp and special products

LANDS

Land exchange activities in 1962 included the Soper-Wheeler exchange now in the final stages of processing. When completed early in 1963, 4643 acres of cutover land will be acquired in Lake County. When the Soper-Wheeler land is added to the National Forest it will result in an increase of allowable cut in the Clear Lake Working Circle of 500,000 board feet. In addition, field cruising of timber was done on selected and offered lands on three other exchanges, and six preliminary negotiations were made with owners of private land. Four of these involve lands in the Middle Eel - Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area.

Progress was made in the program to reduce the number of locked gates on roads necessary for access to public lands. Four locked gates were removed from National Forest land. Four locked gates were bypassed by construction of new roads. Three condemnation procedures were initiated for two rawland easements for timber access roads and for a public right-of-way easement on an existing road. In addition, eight other needed rights-of-way were obtained by negotiation. The volume of right-of-way business is increasing each year due to need for timber access, reciprocity considerations and public recreation pressures.

Detailed searches for 174 General Land Office corners resulted in 73 corners found with acceptible evidence for monumenting. This is highly important work as original corner evidence is steadily disappearing and surveys are getting more costly each year.

During 1962 work was completed through the field search and publication phases of surface rights determination under Public Law 167. It was found that there are twenty-three mining claims on the Forest which will need further study as regards their surface rights classification.

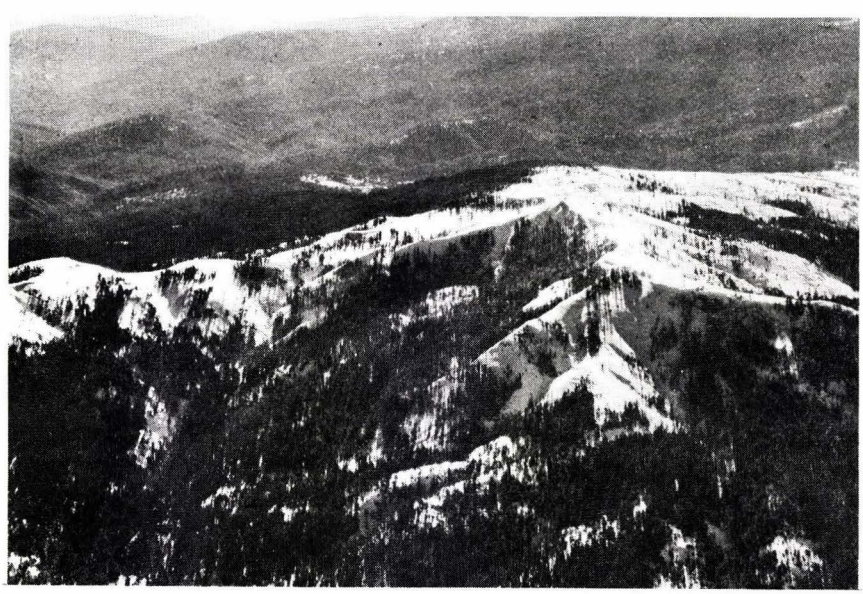
New special use permits were issued for two power transmission lines, one radio-electronics station, twelve summer home sites, and twelve road construction and use permits.

RECREATION

Public recreation continued to increase steadily on the Forest. In 1962 there were over 150,000 visits averaging slightly over three days for a total of over 485,000 visitor days. This represents a 164% increase in use over the past ten years.

The Forest Recreation Plan was completed and approved in 1962. This programs the recreational development needed to meet anticipated demands by the year 1976 and the year 2000. It also establishes a number of roadside, streamside, and trailside zones to protect their recreational values. Work has now begun on detailed site plans which will assign a specific type of development to each acre so as to permit efficient, orderly development of areas where conflicts might otherwise occur.

Approximately 50 family camping units were completed at Wells Cabin, Telephone Camp, Eel River, Little Doe, and Letts Lake Campgrounds. Improvements included tables, stoves, toilets, water systems, and roads. Sunset Campground on Lake Pillsbury was completed and began operation as a pay campground late in the summer.



Anthony Peak

Anthony Peak was field inspected in April, 1962, to determine its potential as a winter sports recreation area. It was found to have excellent potential for intermediate and beginner class skiing, with enough challenge to attract the advance skiers. Once it is accessible year round, the area could be developed to handle 2,000 skiers per day. The survey was made jointly by the U.S. Forest Service and the Mendocino Pass Wonderland Association with Monte Atwater, Forest Service specialist in winter recreation and avalanche control from Squaw Valley, participating.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Forest soils were protected by using better log skid trail stabilization, providing adequate drainage on all roads, enforcing road maintenance specifications, and correcting slide conditions caused by road construction.

The largest soil stabilization job has been the effort to control several large slides which developed on the mainline access roads in Corbin Creek and along the Eel River north of Rattlesnake Creek. Several slides have been completely sloped and seeded to grasses and mulched with straw. Preliminary work of clearing heavy trees, rocks, and debris has been done on others.

Among smaller soil stabilization projects were five stream channel gabion rock dams in Cedar Campground, cross draining of 6.5 miles of abandoned roads in the Harvey Springs area, and gully control work on the Corning District.

Aerial observations of the Forest are being made immediately after major storms to determine areas of most critical erosion.

RANGE AND WILDLIFE

Twenty-seven stockmen grazed 1564 cattle on National Forest land, with an additional 815 head on intermingled private land. Average grazing period was four and one-half months.

A total of 2213 deer were taken on the Forest in 1961. The data for 1962 is not yet complete.

A field appraisal and management plan were completed, with the assistance of the California Department of Fish and Game, covering the deer range on the east side of the Forest. Management plans for all grazing allotments on the Forest were also completed in 1962.

BRUSH CONVERSION

During Fiscal Year 1962, 405 acres were prescribed burned and 260 acres were converted from brush to grass. To date, 7995 acres have been prescribed burned to facilitate fire control and produce succulent deer browse and 1605 acres have been converted to grass. Additional areas were burned and seeded during the calendar year, with spraying planned next spring to complete the conversion. This is helping to control wildfires and increase cattle range. The work is being done in Tehama, Glenn, Lake, Colusa, and Mendocino Counties.

Local formulas for prescribed burning have been developed from data kept on fifty burns during the past twelve years. These formulas help to assure an effective burn with minimum expense for control of fire. Briefly stated, they indicate the proper conditions of wind and humidity for burning various brush types on particular topographic aspects. Although they do not replace skill and experience, they are a big help.

FIRE CONTROL

There were fifty-one lightning fires and sixteen man-caused fires in 1962, burning a total of 678 acres. The average annual acreage burned in wildfire during the past ten years is only six percent of the annual average for the previous forty-two years.

The fifty-one lightning fires have been exceeded in number only twice since 1911. This was in 1958 (56), and 1961 (68). Man-caused fires, on the other hand, are down in number, being only sixteen as compared with the 1951-1960 average of twenty-six per year.

Daily measurements of fire danger throughout the summer indicate that 1962 was an "easier" fire season than the three previous years, but was still more severe than "normal" or average. While variations can be expected from year to year, the above data indicate that people are becoming more careful with fire and that fire control efforts and techniques are becoming more effective.

Average Annual Acreage Burned

1911 - 1952 10,016

606

1953 - 1962

ENGINEERING IMPROVEMENTS

A nine room office and a ten man barracks with cook and foreman quarters were constructed at the Upper Lake Ranger Station. A new sewer system was also installed.

The new Covelo ranger station site was staked for construction and the water and sewer systems installed.

Two temporary buildings were set up in Corbin Creek to serve as a base work center for the stabilization projects on Ivory Mill and Eel River access roads.

A 20,000 gallon concrete water tank was installed to furnish water for the newly completed Sunset Campground at Lake Pillsbury.

Subsurface tests were made at five proposed dam sites, Three Prong Valley, Deer Valley, Hammerhorn Lake, Snow Basin, and Sugarfoot Glade. The proposed Lower Letts dam site was surveyed and the dam designed.

Approximately 22 miles of access road were constructed by timber purchasers on reduced stumpage. All roads were surveyed and designed by Forest employees and built to Forest Service specifications.

Other engineering activities included construction of approximately 2,500 signs in the Forest sign shop, site surveys for 8 bridges and 2 stations, drilling 2 wells, installation of a trailer court at the Paskenta Station, and maintenance of 140 vehicles, 803 miles of road, and 981 miles of trail.

PUBLIC WORKS ACCELERATION PROGRAM

The Mendocino National Forest received $100,000 under the Public Works Acceleration Program for approved projects located in Mendocino County. Notice of allocation and that funds must be spent by December 31, 1962, was received on October 26, 1962. Specific projects were the Black Butte River access road, Eel River and Little Doe Campgrounds, and type conversion work in Thatcher Creek. These projects were part of the Forest work program. Because of the availability of these funds the program was substantially accelerated.

The first 7.5 miles of the Black Butte River access road were surveyed and designed, and 5.5 miles were staked and cleared. A jeep road was constructed on location of 5.5 miles of the surveyed road. Construction of the Little Doe Campground was 75% completed and rehabilitation work was done on the Eel River Campground and water system. Brush was crushed for later burning on 150 acres in Thatcher Creek and roadside slash was burned on 5 miles of the Etsel Ridge road.

Over 75 men were taken off the unemployment rolls and put to work on these projects.

Newly constructed campground stove in the Eel River Campground - a part of the Public Works Acceleration Program.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The Forest continued its active program of telling the story of the National Forests to the public. Programs dealing with the various activities of the Forest were presented to ten service clubs and thirty-two other organizations. Twenty field trips were conducted to different parts of the Forest. In addition, a signed multiple use tour with accompanying brochure was completed on the Stonyford District.

PERSONNEL AND SAFETY

Permanent yearlong personnel increased from 113 last year to a Forest total of 134 as of January 1, 1963. Fifty-five employees are stationed at the Supervisor's Office in Willows, the others are on the five ranger districts. The number of employees hit a high of 280 at peak workload in summer.

With approximately half a million manhours worked during the year, there were 34 accidents requiring medical attention and 5 vehicular accidents.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Year 1962 receipts were $634,723.49. Twenty-five percent of these receipts, $158,680.87, was returned to the counties with acreage within the Forest for roads and schools. In addition, $345,836.80 was collected from timber sales for establishment, improvement, and protection of young growth timber. Twenty-two miles of timber access roads valued at $645,000 were constructed by timber purchasers. Total income including timber access road construction costs were $1,625,560.29.

Fiscal Year 1962 operating expenditures were $1,724,882.35 and investment expenditures were $519,042.76 for a total of $2,243,925.11.

Fiscal Year 1962 Receipts

Timber (stumpage only)	$624,142.70
Grazing	4,381.51
Land Use	909.75
Water Power	10.00
Recreation	5,279.53
Minerals	---
Total	$634,723.49

25% Returned to the Counties

Lake	$ 44,916.28
Glenn	34,204.73
Mendocino	31,014.03
Tehama	23,085.41
Trinity	13,380.35
Colusa	12,080.07
Total	$158,680.87

MENDOCINO FOREST FACTS

County	Gross Area in National Forest Including Private Land	Net Area of National Forest Land
Colusa	71,119	66,036
Glenn	221,408	186,981
Lake	304,763	245,536
Mendocino	212,615	169,539
Tehama	193,840	126,197
Trinity	78,889	73,144
Total	1,082,634	867,433

Wilderness Area	70,384 acres
Commercial Forest Land	369,200 acres
Volume Commercial Timber	7,193,000,000 bd. ft.
Annual Allowable Cut	88,800,000 bd. ft.
40 Developed Campgrounds	284 family camp units
6 Picnic Areas	40 family picnic units
Organization Sites	One
Roads in Forest System Maintained by Forest Service	802.9 miles
Trails in Forest System Maintained by Forest Service	981.0 miles
Buildings of all types	115
Radio Units of all types on Forest	145
Fishing Streams	646 miles
Reservoir Area	2,217 acres
Usable National Forest Land Open to Grazing	146,717 acres

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